

Closed Session – April 3, 2006

At 5:55 p.m. the Board adjourned to closed session to discuss matters relating to the location or expansion of business in the area, pursuant to NCGS 143-318.11(a)(4). Commissioners Holmes, Kemp, Frye, Lanier and Davis were present, as well as Interim County Manager Richard Wells; Assistant County Manager/Finance Officer Will Massie; County Attorney Alan Pugh; Aimee Scotton, Associate County Attorney; David Townsend, III, Public Works Director; Cheryl Ivey, Clerk to the Board; and Bonnie Renfro and Harry Lane from Randolph County Economic Development Corporation (EDC).

Bonnie Renfro told the Board that Younts Machine Company is located in the Turnpike Industrial Park in Trinity and currently occupies a 10,000 sq. ft. facility, which was built in 1993. They produce screw machine parts and aviation components parts, employing 15 workers. Due to strong business growth, the company wishes to add 10,000 sq. ft. to the building and additional machinery and equipment, thereby doubling their workforce, adding 8-12 new jobs. However, the company is unable to add to their workforce without sewer service. Engineers working for the City of Trinity propose a sewer extension project to serve this business and six other businesses. The project would add 2200 linear feet of sewer to tap into a line serving the Breckinridge neighborhood at a projected cost of \$300,000.

Ms. Renfro presented a possible funding plan:

Rural Center Grant	\$120,000
Property Owner Taps	\$24,000
Company (Younts) Contribution	\$41,825
County Match	\$41,825
Trinity (street funds)	\$29,400
Company (Younts) Capacity fee	\$1,125
City Match	<u>\$41,825</u>
	\$300,000

After discussion, the Board's consensus was to decline participation in this project due to insufficient return on its investment.

Next, Ms. Renfro presented another proposal to the Board. A west coast company is seeking a site for an east coast operation for case good furniture manufacturing. The finished product is sent to other retail and distribution centers. The company is looking at availability and cost of labor, location and transportation infrastructure, and ability to obtain air quality permits. Their operation will use about 100 trucks per day. The company would like to use the Latino workforce, when possible, and is looking at 40-60-acre sites in North Carolina, Georgia and Tennessee. They project a \$35-40 million investment, with 1,000 jobs within 3 years. The average starting wage is \$8-9/hour, with no benefits during the first 12 months.

Ms. Renfro stated that the EDC has submitted the Liberty Business Park and the South Asheboro site for consideration. She said that they might qualify for a Rural Center Grant.

After discussion, the Board's consensus was to decline participation in this project at this time.

*At 6:18 p.m. on motion of Davis, seconded by Kemp, the Board voted unanimously to end closed session and return to regular session.*

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J. Harold Holmes, Chairman

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Darrell L. Frye, Vice Chairman

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Phil Kemp

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Robert B. Davis

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Arnold Lanier

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Cheryl A. Ivey, Clerk to the Board